GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6188
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2003
FAILURE OF BT. COTTON
SUBODH MOHITE

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Bt. Cotton Crop in Andhra Pradesh has failed due to menace of pests;

(b) if so, the action taken thereof;

(c) whether the Government are reconsidering to take back the approval of GEAC for commercialization of GM technology;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND F0RESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JU DEV)

(a & b) The report of the Andhra Pradesh Government on the performance of Bt cotton indicate that the bollworm infestation waslow to moderate during the Kharif 2002 and hence the advantage of Bt cotton could not be assessed.

(c, d & e) No Sir. The GEAC has approved commercial cultivation of Bt. Cotton only for a period of 3 years and therefore its performance would be evaluated during this period. In view of the varying agro climatic conditions, the performance of Bt. Cotton cannot be assessed on one year data.